



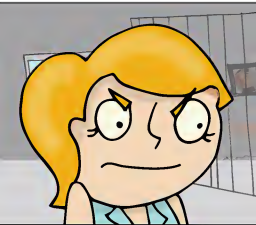


ILLUSIONS OF ADULTING

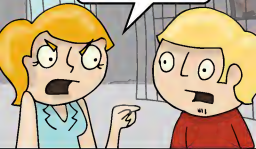
by Sara Zimmerman

Hailey, WAIT!





Steve, I've waited
for you to commit
to me for 5 years.
Why should I wait
around any longer?



It's just that..
that...





...that I'm
embarrassed.

Embarrassed?
About me?



ILLUSION:


...uh... this is my, um,
... girlfriend



REALITY:

You?
No, not at all...



A cartoon character with blonde hair and a red shirt is shown from the chest up. He has a surprised expression with wide eyes and an open mouth. A speech bubble is coming from him, and another speech bubble is floating above him. The background is a simple grey wall with a window.

I am embarrassed
because you have been
the bread-winner for us.

I have been waiting all this
time so I could make enough
money to prove to you that
I can be the man of the
house and take care of you.



It's just that as a barista I don't make enough money and my music career really hasn't taken off yet and...



Really? Is that why
you've been waiting to
ask me to marry you?

Yes.

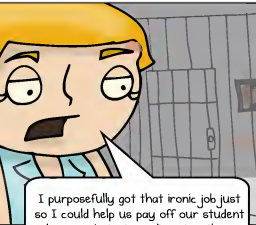


Steve, that's an idiotic gender paradigm that is not only archaic, but has no place in our relationship.

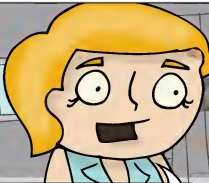


You think that with my
environmental and communications
degree that I wanted a job making an
oil company look good? No way!

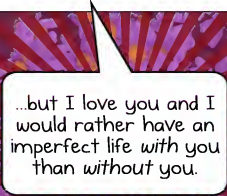




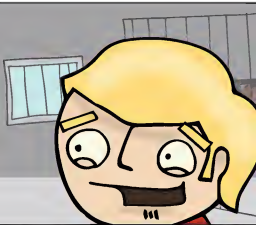
I purposefully got that ironic job just so I could help us pay off our student loans and start our lives together. I don't care about who makes the money, just as long as we have some.



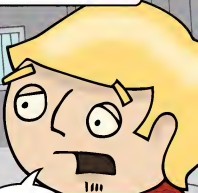
Look, I know we have problems and
that things aren't perfect...



...but I love you and I
would rather have an
imperfect life with you
than without you.






A cartoon character with blonde hair and a surprised expression. The character has large, wide eyes and a slightly open mouth. They are wearing a red shirt. The background is a simple grey wall with a window showing blue light.

Hailey, you're right.
Will you please forgive me?

And...

The background is a vibrant, abstract pattern of purple and pink diagonal stripes. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the upper center, pointing downwards. Inside the bubble, the text "...yes, let's get married!!!" is written in a black, handwritten-style font.

...yes,
let's get married!!!

Yay!!!



Now, if that isn't the storybook
proposal we all dream of.



by Sara Zimmerman / Unearthed Comics

Thank you for all the nice comments and playing my "Identify the Metaphors" game from last episode! (There were some great insights!) Here are my interpretations:

- 1.) Hitting Head - A wakeup call to seeing beyond the illusions we set in our minds
- 2.) Savior on the Beach - Temptation of instant gratification (hot new guy) and self-sabotaging working towards a long-term goal (marriage)
- 3.) New Shading in Art - Shows Hailey's growth and the increasing depth of her character
- 4.) Jail - Steve being trapped in his own illusions and thoughts

Hailey didn't get the proposal of her dreams.
Yet, in the end, it didn't matter.

Share Your Proposal Stories!

- A) If you are/were married, what did your proposal look like?
- B) If you want to someday be married, what do you want your ideal proposal to look like?

Share in the comments below.